

of dragoons which still glories in the name of Enniskillen, and which has proved on the shores of the Euxine that it has not degenerated since the day of the Boyne'.* In another place, describing the enthusiasm of Scotland for the Darien scheme, Macaulay argues that the hopes of commerce and wealth founded upon it had some element of reason in them. There was no reason that Scotland should not become fabulously wealthy through trade. * Scotland was, indeed, not blessed with a mild climate or a fertile soil. But the richest spots that had ever existed on the face of the earth had been spots quite as little favoured by nature/ He proceeds to point out the natural and local disadvantage of Tyre, Venice, and Amsterdam and to enlarge at length on their wealth and greatness.²

Often he adorns a plain statement with a superfluity of historical parallels. Arguing that if the administration of James I had been able and splendid it would probably have been fatal to English liberty, he concludes by saying :

Had James been, like Henry the Fourth, like Maurice of Nassau, or like Gustavus Adolphus, a valiant, active, and politic ruler, had he put himself at the head of the Protestants of Europe, had he gained great victories over Tilly and Spinola, had he adorned Westminster with the spoils of Bavarian monasteries and Flemish cathedrals, had he

hung Austrian and Castilian banners in Saint Paul's, and had he found himself, after great achievements, at the head of fifty thousand troops, brave, well disciplined, and devotedly attached to his person, the English Parliament would soon have been nothing more than a name.³

This is rather overdone, but its purpose is obvious : Macaulay is not introducing these names out of the mere exuberance of his knowledge, but in order to clench his

¹IV, 1875 (xvi).

²VI, 2912 (xxiv).

»I, 59 (i).